

THE PRESSO



WEEKLY BLEND



SEBI Eases IPO Norms and FPI Entry to Boost Market Growth

SEBI has relaxed IPO dilution norms and extended timelines for firms to meet minimum public shareholding, easing large company listings. Life insurers and pension funds are now allowed as anchor investors alongside mutual funds, with reservations raised to 40%. A new single-window system simplifies FPI registration, while REITs are reclassified as equity for index inclusion. Additionally, SEBI reduced mutual fund exit loads to 3% and approved incentives for distributors, aiming to deepen participation and strengthen India's primary market.

US Pushes G7 for Heavy Tariffs on China, India and Seizure of Russian Assets to Aid Ukrain



The US is urging G7 nations to levy tariffs of up to 100% on China and India for purchasing Russian oil, aiming to pressure Moscow to end the Ukraine war. Washington also seeks legal mechanisms to seize around \$300 billion in frozen Russian assets, largely held in Europe, to support Ukraine's defense. While profits from these assets already fund loans for Kyiv, seizing the principal faces resistance within the EU, where some states oppose tougher energy sanctions on Russia.

Maruti CEO Stresses Policy Stability as Key to India's Global Manufacturing Rise



Maruti Suzuki CEO Hisashi Takeuchi highlighted steep US tariffs on nearly 30% of India's auto-component exports, calling it a major challenge. He urged policy stability to boost India's manufacturing competitiveness, citing opportunities from global supply disruptions, strong domestic demand, and initiatives like PLI and Make in India.

Government orders monthly GST monitoring



The government has directed monthly price monitoring for 54 essential goods—including food, toiletries, and cement—after GST rates are reduced from September 22. Field units and trade associations must submit price data for six months, starting September 30, to ensure rate cut benefits reach consumers. Businesses need clear documentation, as authorities will also check prices directly in markets.



Sushila Karki Makes History as Nepal's First Woman Prime Minister Amid Protests and Political Transition

Nepal's ex-chief justice Sushila Karki has made history as the nation's first woman Prime Minister, sworn in to lead a six-month interim government until elections. Her appointment follows days of unrest after anti-corruption protests ousted the previous administration, with security crackdowns leaving over 50 dead.

A 73-year-old graduate of Banaras Hindu University, Karki vowed to fulfill her duties as Prime Minister and serve the people. Congratulated by President Ram Chandra Paudel, she begins her tenure amid political instability, public anger, and calls for accountability in Nepal's democracy.

BUSINESS BREWS



“THIS STRATEGIC ASSOCIATION IS POISED TO REINFORCE OUR PLACE AS THE GO-TO-DESTINATION FOR THE NEW GENERATION OF BEAUTY CONSUMERS”

Nandita Sinha, CEO, Myntra

Myntra, Sugar Cosmetics Launch Molten Beauty for Gen Z Revolution

Myntra has teamed up with Vellvette Lifestyle, creator of Sugar Cosmetics, to introduce Molten Beauty—a new skincare and makeup brand for Gen Z Indians. Combining Myntra’s online retail expertise and Sugar’s product development, this venture aims to offer over 50 products next year, catering to young consumers seeking multifunctional and digital-first beauty solutions, and further strengthen Myntra’s position in the evolving beauty industry .

India, EU Push to Seal Landmark Trade Deal



India and the European Union are intensifying efforts to finalize a free trade agreement by the end of the year. The EU, India’s largest trading partner, aims to unlock investment, reduce trade barriers, and enhance supply chains. Key negotiation points include duty cuts on vehicles, medical devices, wine, and spirits, while India seeks better access for textiles, pharmaceuticals, steel, and petroleum. The deal aims to liberalize tariffs on all automobile components, boosting two-way trade. Concurrently, India and the EU are advancing security and defence partnerships, exploring cooperation in defence manufacturing. Negotiators stress progress over perfection to secure a balanced pact.

Rupee Hits Record Low Amid Tarriff Worries, RBI Intervenes



The Indian rupee fell to a fresh low of 88.44 against the US dollar, weighed down by strong importer demand and fears of fresh US tariffs. In FY26 so far, it has depreciated 3.36%,

and by 3.20% in 2025, making it Asia’s worst-performing currency. Analysts cite heavy dollar demand, widening trade deficit, and global uncertainties as key reasons. Foreign investors have offloaded \$11.7 billion of domestic debt and equity this year, worsening pressure. The Reserve Bank of India has actively intervened through dollar sales to contain volatility, but liquidity has drained due to such operations and forward book maturities. Though the rupee recovered slightly after positive US-China trade signals, tariff concerns and capital outflows continue to cloud its stability and outlook.

Govt. Reviews MRP Rules Amid GST Rate Revision Challenges



The Finance Ministry and Consumer Affairs Department are reviewing the September 9 circular mandating MRP revisions to reflect new GST rates. Businesses argue reducing prices is tough due to higher input taxes already paid on unsold stock, with no refunds provided. The government may issue clarifications, especially for small sachets and discounted items where price cuts are impractical. Industry bodies also seek clarity on input tax credit (ITC) and transition relief. Experts say accumulated ITC and lack of refunds pose challenges, but revisions could ease burdens by allowing flexibility in pricing during the transition period. Officials may extend the deadline for price changes till December 31. This move is expected to ease the compliance pressure on companies. Clear guidelines are awaited to avoid confusion in the implementation.



Gold, Silver Rally on Fed Rate Cut Hopes, Weak US Data, Geopolitical Risk

Gold and silver prices surged in September, with gold spot reaching \$3,600/oz, driven by weak US jobs data and expectations of Fed rate cuts. Year-to-date gains in gold surpassed 36%, boosted further by escalating geopolitical tensions, especially fresh Russian strikes in Ukraine. Investors continue to view precious metals as safe havens despite short-term volatility.



PM Modi Launches ₹36,000 Crore Projects in Bihar Amid Poll Push

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched ₹36,000 crore worth of development projects in Bihar ahead of the state Assembly elections, including

a new airport terminal and the National Makhana Board. During his three-day, five-state tour, he also inaugurated infrastructure projects in Mizoram, Manipur, and Assam, while emphasizing national security, green energy, and criticizing Congress for past failures.

India's Forex Reserves Rise by \$4 Billion to \$698.27 Billion



India's foreign exchange reserves surged by \$4.038 billion to reach \$698.27 billion in the week ending September 5, driven mainly by a \$3.53 billion rise in gold reserves to \$90.3 billion. Foreign currency assets increased by \$540 million to \$584.48 billion. Meanwhile, Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) and the IMF reserve position changed marginally, reflecting stable reserve management by the RBI.

Additionally, India's reserve position with the IMF rose by \$2 million to \$4.75 billion. In the previous week, the reserves had increased by \$3.51 billion to \$694.23 billion, reflecting steady growth.

India Plans ₹20,000-Crore Risk Guarantee Fund to Boost Infrastructure Investment



The Indian government is planning a ₹20,000-crore risk guarantee fund to support infrastructure projects by covering non-commercial risks such as policy changes, land acquisition delays, and environmental clearance issues. Managed by the National

Credit Guarantee Trustee Company (NCGTC), the fund aims to boost lender confidence, ease financing hurdles, and accelerate infrastructure development, which requires \$4.5 trillion by 2040. NaBFID will soon submit recommendations.

India Needs \$10 Trillion by 2070 for Net-Zero Goal, Says Bhupender Yadav



Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said India requires over \$10 trillion by 2070 to achieve net-zero emissions. He stressed that developed nations have a moral duty to support the Global South through climate finance. Yadav emphasized high-integrity carbon markets and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement as key tools to mobilize private investment and technology transfer, while calling green finance essential for sustainable development and climate resilience.

ARTISTIC AROMAS

NANO BANANA

It's an AI effect that transforms your photo into a tiny 3D figurine, like a collectible toy placed on a display stand or inside toy-like packaging. Your selfie

or portrait is miniaturized, given a glossy/plastic texture, and posed as if it's a model kept on a shelf. The name "Nano Banana" comes from Gemini's quirky internal project name for this AI image editing feature. It combines photorealism + toy-like stylization, which feels new compared to older AI portrait edits. It is accessible via Google Gemini's image editing (beta features).



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